



WINTERFEST

Council Bluffs

Monday, November 22 - 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Winter Wonderland of Lights

(Winterfest kickoff)

Join in the annual lighting festivities for Bayliss Park! Bayliss Park Hall will host the celebration, with entertainment, free hot cocoa, and a visit from Santa!

At 6:00 p.m., Mayor Hanafan will officially turn on the lights in Bayliss Park. The lights will be visible from 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m. nightly through mid-January.

Contact Council Bluffs Parks, Recreation, and Public Property at (712) 328-4650 or log onto www.cbpcparksandrec.org. Bayliss Park Hall Address: 503 1st Ave.



Tuesday, November 23

Festival of Trees Gala

This event will kickoff the first annual Festival of Trees celebration at the Mid-America Center. The evening will include a formal dinner with entertainment and silent and oral auctions, featuring specially designed Christmas trees. Tickets are \$75 (\$35 is tax deductible). Cocktails are at 6:00 p.m. Dinner begins at 7:00 p.m. The Gala is a benefit for the Bluffs Arts Council.

Contact the Bluffs Arts Council at (712) 328-4992 or log onto www.bluffsarts.org

Mid-America Center Address: 1 Arena Way.

November 23-December 30 Christmas at the Dodge House

Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Closed Mondays.

Tour the restored 1869 home of General Dodge and enjoy Christmas decorations galore, featuring uniquely decorated holiday trees!

Special Family Nights are: December 2, 9, and 16 from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. "Night with Santa" will also take place on December 2 and kids can have their pictures with Santa.

Contact the Dodge House at (712) 322-2406.

Address: 605 S. 3rd Street

Friday, November 26 — 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Ameristar Casino's Festival of Lights

Join us as we light more than one million lights on the Ameristar property. The centerpiece of the display will be a 50 foot holiday tree in front of the Ameristar hotel. The festival will include hot chocolate and cookies, holiday carols, horse and carriage rides, and a lighting ceremony at 6 p.m. The public is invited to take part in the celebration, which will also feature a hand-made gingerbread village in the Ameristar pavilion.

Contact Ameristar at (712) 328-8888.

Address: 2200 River Road

Friday, November 26 through Sunday, November 28 (10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday, Noon to 5 p.m. Sunday). Festival of Trees

This is a first-year event that is destined to be a tradition in Council Bluffs, with a unique tree exhibition, children's corner, ongoing stage entertainment with local performers, art exhibits and vendors and public skating. Adults: \$6. Children 2 to 12: \$3. Babes in arms: Free.

Contact the Bluffs Arts Council at (712) 328-4992 or log onto www.bluffsarts.org. Address: 1 Arena Way

Jam and Bread

Join us at the Western Historic Trails Center for an afternoon of great music and home baked bread. Every Thursday (except Thanksgiving) from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. area musicians and listeners gather at the Trails Center for Jam and Bread. Bring your instrument or just your appreciation of good old acoustic music and spend the afternoon with us.

Winterfest dates will be:

December 2, 9, 16, 20, 30

January 6, 13, 20, 27

February 3, 10, 17, 24

Contact the Western Historic Trails Center at (712) 366-4900 or <<http://www.iowahistory.org/sites>> Address: 3434 Richard Downing Ave.

Campfire, Coffee and Conversation

Come to the Western Historic Trails Center, sit by a "real" indoor campfire, have a cup of coffee and visit with a special guest about the West, historic Council Bluffs or pioneer times. Free admission.

December 3, January 7, February 4 and March 4

Contact the Western Historic Trails Center at (712) 366-4900 or <<http://www.iowahistory.org/sites>> Address: 3434 Richard Downing Ave.

Holiday Tour of the City

Visit locations all over Council Bluffs to see unique holiday displays, historic Council Bluffs sites, and find gift ideas for everyone on your list.

Brickhouse Gifts: Saturday, December 4

Special hours: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Shop for a wide variety of gift baskets, gourmet foods, quilts, candles, and collectible. Tour the second floor *Christmas Year-Round* room for a host of decorating ideas. Free refreshments and drawings.

Address: 1000 S. 6th Street

Western Historic Trail Center

Holidays on the Trail: Sat., Dec. 4 & Sun., Dec. 5

This fun family event will span December 4 and 5 from 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Enjoy shopping, historical holiday programs, childrens' activities, free refreshments, and sleigh rides.

Contact the Western Historic Trails Center at (712) 366-4900 or <<http://www.iowahistory.org/sites>> www.iowahistory.org/sites. Address: 3434 Richard Downing Ave.

Kanesville Tabernacle: Saturday, December 4

Special hours: 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Visit this authentic replica of the log tabernacle where Brigham Young was named leader of the Mormon Church in December, 1847. The tabernacle will be highlighted by a holiday tree decorated with handmade pioneer-style ornaments. Admission is free!

Address: 222 E. Broadway

Christmas at the Depot

Saturdays and Sundays, December 4 - December 26:

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Tour the restored 1899 Rock Island Depot, complete with railroad artifacts and operating HO gauge model railroad. Discounted admission!

Contact RailsWest at (712) 323-2509.

Address: 16th Ave. and S. Main Street



OVER →



Jam and Bread

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Address: 3434 Richard Downing Ave.



Thursday, December 9 Holiday Concert

Come to Looft Hall for a lively performance by the Iowa Western Community College Jazz Ensemble with vocalist Boyd Littrell. The concert will begin with refreshments at 6:30 p.m. The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. This event is FREE and open to the public.

Contact the Bluffs Arts Council at (712) 328-4992 or log onto www.bluffsarts.org.
IWCC Looft Hall Auditorium address: 2700 College Road



Saturday, December 11: 1 p.m. - 3 p.m. Santa's Workshop

Bring your K-3rd graders to Community Hall to enjoy holiday crafts, a holiday movie, punch and cookies, and a visit from Santa! \$1 per child. Spaces are limited and advance registration is preferred.

Contact Parks, Recreation and Public Property at (712) 328-4650 or log onto www.cbpcparksandrec.org
Community hall Address: 205 S. Main St.

A Western Film Festival

Favorite movies chosen by actual cowboys! The Western Historic Trails Center will show two movies each day with a break in between them for discussion and refreshments. Topics will cover cattle drives, the good guys meet the bad guys, American musical theatre meets the western, and boys becoming men in the west. Participants will discuss plot, characters, themes, historical accuracy of the portrayal of cowboys, the West, etc. Mary Lu Larson, Trails West Gift shop Manager and retired educator, will lead the discussion. The movies will start at noon each day. The Festival is FREE and open to the public.

Show times will be:

January 15: Lonesome Dove and Will Penny

January 29: Rio Bravo and High Noon

February 5: Oklahoma and Annie Get Your Gun

February 19: Shane and The Cowboys.

Contact the Western Historic Trails Center at (712) 366-4900 or www.iowahistory.org/sites
Address: 3434 Richard Downing Ave.



Saturday, January 8 Xtreme Winterfest Bike Ride

This is the third annual Winterfest bike event, co-sponsored by Council Bluffs Parks and Recreation, the Western Historic Trails Center, Xtreme Wheels and the Riverside Grille. This leisurely 5-mile (roundtrip) ride will start at the Western Historic Trails Center and go north along the Iowa Riverfront Trail to the Riverside Grille (at Dodge Riverside Golf Club). This fun family event will include a Trail Riders lunch with door prizes. The ride begins at 11:30 a.m., but come to the Trails Center early to enjoy hot cocoa, tour the exhibits of pioneer and modern day travel, and shopping in the Center's Gift Shop.

Contact Council Bluffs Parks, Recreation, and Public Property at (712) 328-4650 or log onto www.cbpcparksandrec.org.
Western Historic Trails Center address: 3434 Richard Downing Ave.

Saturday and Sunday, January 15-16 Snow Softball Tournament

Men's and Co-Ed Double Elimination Invitational at the Council Bluffs Recreation Complex. Entry fee of \$85.60 includes umpires. Prizes for winners in both divisions! Registration required by January 7. Draws will be available Thursday, January 13.

Contact Parks, Recreation and Public Property at (712) 328-4650.
Complex Address: 2900 Richard Downing Ave.

Saturday, January 22 Frozen Golf Tournament - Shotgun start at 10:00 a.m.



\$25 entry fee includes nine holes of golf at Dodge Riverside Golf Club, door prizes, refreshments, and awards in the Junior, Adult, and Senior Divisions. Single and foursome entries are welcomed. Registration required by January 21. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Richard Downing Memorial Fund for parks and recreation projects.

Contact Dodge Riverside Golf Club at (712) 328-4660 or log onto www.cbpcparksandrec.org.
Address: 2 Harrah's Blvd.

Saturday, January 29 Winterfest \$25,000 Ice Fishing Derby

Hosted by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, this event features a chili cook-off, and Ice Decorating Contest and huge prizes for top fish-catchers. The event will be held at Lake Manawa State Park. Pre-registration preferred by November 23. Day-of registration will be from 6:00 a.m. - 7:00 a.m.

The Derby will be held from 7:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Registration fee is \$10. Participants must have a fishing license, name badge, and official receipt.

Contact the DNR at (712) 366-0220.

Lake Manawa Address: 1100 South Shore Drive

Sunday, February 6 Lollipop Challenge

Mount Crescent Ski Area is the home of this ski and snowboard race event. \$5 entry fee with prizes for everyone! Ages 12 and under.

Contact Mount Crescent at (712) 545-3850
Address: 17026 Snowhill Lane, Honey Creek



Saturday, February 12 Big Air Competition

Join skiers and snowboarders from all over the Midwest at this Mount Crescent Ski Area event for all ages and abilities. \$10 entry fee with prizes for everyone!

Contact Mount Crescent at (712) 545-3850
Address: 17026 Snowhill Lane, Honey Creek

February 12 Wings of Hope Snowflake Dance

The evening begins at 7:00 p.m. at the Harrah's Casino Hotel (1 Harrah's Blvd.) with a social hour, hors d'oeuvres, a dessert buffet, and a cash bar. The dance begins at 8:15 p.m. "On the Fritz," a local band that plays a mix of hits from the 60s to today, will be featured. Tickets are \$30 per person, with proceeds benefiting the Wings of Hope Cancer Support Center, a nonprofit organization established in 1994. Beaded snowflake ornaments can be purchased for \$10. The engraved ornaments, honoring cancer survivors, cancer health care professionals, and those who have lost their battles with cancer, will be displayed during the Dance and then returned to the purchaser.

Contact Stacy Schultz at (712) 325-8970.
Address: 1 Harrah's Blvd.

**For more information about these
great Winterfest events,
check out www.CBParksAndRec.org
or call Council Bluffs Parks, Recreation, and
Public Property at (712) 328-4650**